

It is also at Fort Irwin that our New Jersey National Guard units, as well as active duty Army battalions from all across the world, train to be soldiers, improving their fighting skills without actual loss of life or loss of equipment.

As fate would have it, I did meet with some members of the New Jersey National Guard's 1-114th Infantry Battalion as they got ready to fight in a mock battle with the regular stationed force. It was very cold out there and I even got caught in a blinding sandstorm as the temperatures dropped down below freezing.

About 5500 U.S. soldiers are deployed to the National Training Center to engage in a strenuous 28 day training event called a "rotation" twelve times a year—you really have to admire these young men and women.

From the sands of the Mojave and the arduous training at Ft. Irwin, I visited the Yuma Proving Grounds in Yuma, Arizona. At this facility, the Army tests weapons and munitions. Much of the technology tested at Yuma, near the Mexican border, is researched and developed in our own backyard at Picatinny Arsenal in Rockaway Township.

I had the good fortune of witnessing a test of the Crusader, an advanced tank artillery system that, as I mentioned, is designed at Picatinny Arsenal. In fact, the Crusader is one of Picatinny's major projects.

The Crusader is the Army's future heavy artillery system and it will provide more reliable, more lethal firepower on the battlefield. The Crusader can fire faster, and more accurately than any existing tank or fighting vehicle in the Army's inventory. During tests at Yuma, the Crusader showed its stuff by successfully firing a round nearly 40 km!

I look forward to showing Defense Secretary William Cohen where Crusader research and development takes place when he visits Picatinny on May 26. I have pursued his visit for several years because I believe it is important for the Defense Secretary to see firsthand the amazing work being done by the talented men and women of Picatinny—work that is critical to America's national security. I am glad Secretary Cohen has accepted my invitation to visit Picatinny; it's the first time in Picatinny's long history that a Secretary of Defense will have visited.

Finally, back in Washington, last week my committee, the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, gave its approval to our nation's military and intelligence programs for fiscal year 2001, including those critical programs at Picatinny and New Jersey's other military installations. You can be sure that I will continue working to strengthen our military.

Most especially, I will continue working to see to it that our young soldiers are properly paid, have decent housing, and child care, remembering that 65 percent of our all-volunteer force is married, many with children. After all, these young men and women and their sense of self-sacrifice and duty, continue to serve as an inspiration for all Americans.

BUILD IT RIGHT, AND THEY WILL  
COME

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2000*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, we have often heard the phrase "if you build it, they will

come" from the movie *Field of Dreams*. We have learned, however, that when it comes to baseball parks, we need to get it right—that delicate balance between the old and new. The new ballpark in the City of Detroit was a vision of the Ilitch Family and John McHale, the owners and president of the Detroit Tigers respectively—and I am pleased to say they got it right. From the statues of Tiger greats in the outfield to the tiger gargoyles on the outside, the new Comerica Park is a gem. Mr. Speaker, I had the fortunate opportunity to attend the dedication of the new park and was deeply touched by President McHale's comments. I now submit his remarks for the RECORD.

MCHALE REMARKS FOR APRIL 8, 2000 RIBBON  
CUTTING CEREMONY

Reverend Clergy, Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends of our City, Friends of the Detroit Tigers, Good Morning.

Today marks for me a little more than five years since I first came to you, unknown, uncredentialed, clad only in the good will of the Ilitch family and your own charity to ask for your help for the Detroit Tigers.

Who knows what you must have thought and how many promises for how many projects that came to little had been put to you before. I look back then on my own impudence with humility and the improbability of our success with laughter. But it seemed to me then that the success of this adventure was possible only if built upon the rock which is the spirit of the people of the City of Detroit. However naively or imperfectly I tried to express this, you already knew if better than I.

(In my middle years, I came upon a wood. . . .) You welcomed us. You guided us. From validating our agreement and financial partnership with the City, to providing us with public fora, to assisting us in reaching the voters of the City and then Wayne County, this project was nurtured in the temples, mosques and churches of our community. And, as would a parent, you gently and firmly gave us to understand how we should do justice to the people of our community who helped us give life to this dream. I want to pause to remember my friend Morris Hood and to speak his name here with gratitude and affection. With me, Morris was not so gentle but was extremely firm concerning his expectations for this project. He loved the Tigers and I hope he is proud of his city today. From planning and hosting outreach meetings to recruiting skilled tradeswomen and tradesmen to commending to our attention new and established businesses, your communities of faith have helped us at every step.

Because our achievement has been so great, both symbolically and in terms of steel, bricks and concrete, it is tempting to consider today's celebration a conclusion. That would be a profound mistake. It is a point of passage, appropriate for brief rest, reflection and an occasion for celebration, but just a stop on the long journey for all of us toward our greater goals. It is not normally fashionable in the business of professional sports to concede, much less insist as we do today, that the partnerships of public and private support required to produce such beautiful buildings as Comerica Park ought to serve greater goods than our success in the standings and on the balance sheet. But of course this is so and this proposition has been joyfully embraced by the Ilitch family since the establishment of their entrepreneurial headquarters in this city in 1987 and at the Detroit Tigers since its acquisition by Mike Ilitch in 1992. And, as surely as we have been guided and inspired by a determination

to restore our city to the material greatness known by our parents and grandparents, so must we work to make it St. Matthew's "city on a mountain" as renowned for its goodness, economic opportunity and economic justice as for the beauty of its buildings and the glory of its sports clubs. So do we work, with an eye and an ear toward the judgment of history.

What do we wish men and women to say of our efforts a hundred years from today? I hope that they will say we can know three things about the people who built this building.

First, that they loved their children. All ballparks are, by definition, places of communal recreation and celebration (subject to the occasional vagaries of on-field performance). Bart Giamatti told us:

"The gods are brought back when the people gather. . . . The acts of physical toil—lifting, throwing, bending, jumping, pushing, grasping, stretching, running, hoisting, the constantly repeated acts that for millennia have meant work and to bound them in time or by rules or boundaries in a green enclosure surrounded by an amphitheater or at least a gallery (thus combining garden and city, a place removed from care but in the real world) is to replicate the arena of humankind's highest aspiration. . . . 'Winning' for player or spectator is not simply outscoring. It is a way of talking about betterment, about making oneself, one's fellows, one's city, one's adherents, more noble because of a temporary engagement of a higher human plane of existence."

This may be what grips a city as this one was gripped in 1968 and 1984 and will be again. This engagement is what stamps in our mind the characteristics of human spirit revealed in the heat of competition by our athletic heroes like Greenberg, Kaline and Horton. The certainty that in these metaphors we can teach important lessons of life: the need for patience, the need to struggle, the need to bear defeat without conceding to it and the need to view victory as a transitory gift, is what led our parents and grandparents to bring us to Navin Field, Briggs Stadium and Tiger Stadium and is what will lead us to bring our children and grandchildren to Comerica Park. Never has there been a sporting field built to echo the joy of children and adults at play. The stories and lessons of our shared history abound. In one sense, Comerica Park is literally the most magnificent playground ever built. In another, it is the illustrated story of one hundred years of a part of Detroit's history. In a third, its steel, concrete and bricks and its focus on the skyline will reinforce in young minds their parents' lessons of economic opportunity, the appropriate role of professional sports in a larger civic context and the importance of our city to our region, state and country.

Second, I hope that they will say that these builders loved their city.

All of us, together, began a quest to breathe new life into the City of Detroit by building a ballpark, that is in ways subtle and obvious is of the City of Detroit. It is here, of course, bounded by the old city streets of Montcalm, Witherell, Adams and Brush, physically connected to Grand Circus Park, Harmonie Park and Brush Park. It represents over \$300 million worth of affirmation in the future and vitality of downtown Detroit. It is made of materials that are almost sacramental to our City, brick, steel, glass and concrete. Its forms are echoes of the most beautiful in Detroit design from the last century. Its exterior is graced by bands and plaques of tile from the Pewabic Pottery on East Jefferson Avenue. Comerica Park has been planned to nurture the surrounding neighborhoods and to stimulate

new growth. Already, complimentary projects have begun and more announced. Buildings unused for decades are being renovated and that most precious sign of urban vitality, new residential construction, is rising just to the north of us in Brush Park. Very soon we will be joined by our even larger neighbor, Ford Field, which will bring many hundreds of thousands more of our metropolitan citizens downtown. This, in turn, will stimulate even more of the desirable development activity which we now see. Is all of this happening because of Comerica Park? Of course not, but much of it is. The good that we hoped for our city is coming to pass because of the commitments we made to each other and the work we began in 1995.

Third, I hope that 100 years from now the citizens of Detroit will look back upon us and say, "They kept their word." We came to you in 1995 and 1996 and promised that if you would help us, we would ensure that at least 30% of the estimated \$245 million price of this project would represent goods and services provided by minority, women-owned, small and local businesses. At last report, the total percentage of work performed by these businesses represented, 56%, nearly double our promise. This has meant over \$133 million in work for these businesses who have performed so well in helping us complete this project on schedule and on budget. It is worth mentioning today that the first contract excavation work on this project performed on September 4, 1997 was done by Ferguson Enterprises, a minority business enterprise and the final Tiger statue swung into place was manufactured by Showmotion, Inc., a woman-owned business enterprise, appropriate bookends for the good work of the City the County, the City Council New Stadia Development Monitoring Task Force (chaired for 4 years by Reverend Wendell Anthony), the MMBDC, A3BC, the Minority Business Initiative, our project team IFG, the Smith Group, HOK and H-T-W and hundreds of individuals, without the work of each, these exemplary results could never have been possible. We are confident that beyond being sound construction decisions, these contractual relationships will provide a basis for future prosperity, contract capacity and public and industry recognition of these businesses and will help continue cycles of prosperity for these firms for many, many years.

They loved their children, they loved their city, they kept their word. It is to this judgment by the men and women of the year 2100 that we rededicate ourselves and our organization today and that we pledge as the tests of our judgments and actions for as long as we are given to continue the work of God and man that we began together at the birth of the dream which is today Comerica Park. Thank you.

#### CONGRATULATING BRENDA BUTLER HAMLETT

#### HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2000*

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to Brenda Butler Hamlett, who was recently selected as a 2000 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader. Ms. Hamlett is one of only ten individuals from around the country to be recognized with this most distinguished award for community health leadership.

As a community development coordinator for the New England Organ Bank, Ms. Hamlett

works tirelessly to raise awareness of the need for increased organ and tissue donations, especially among minority populations. Her programs work to educate minority families about the risk factors and lifestyle choices that can lead to the need for a transplant. She also works to encourage residents in the community to consider organ donation as a contribution they can make to save the lives of others.

Ms. Hamlett comes to her work from a very unique perspective. After battling heart disease for a number of years, she was forced to undergo a heart transplant in 1993. After her successful procedure, she agreed to be featured in the organ bank's advertising campaign on posters and public service announcements. In 1995 she joined the organ bank's staff full-time, putting her former experience as a community relations specialist and teacher to work.

Ms. Hamlett currently conducts much of her outreach in Boston-area schools, using poetry and workbooks that she has developed herself to teach young people about organ donation and end-of-life issues. She also offers programs in community health centers and area churches. She often fields calls in the middle of the night from area hospitals to counsel families about donating organs and loved ones.

As a further recognition of her tremendous work, she was also recently elected president of the American Society of Minority Health Transplant Professionals, whose mission is to promote organ and tissue donation among minorities.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly my honor today to congratulate Brenda Butler Hamlett for this well deserved award. As extraordinary people do, Ms. Hamlett was able to transform an undoubtedly traumatic experience in her life into a tremendous dedication to improve the lives of those around her.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF DAVE WILDMAN

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2000*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Mr. Dave Wildman in honor of his retirement from thirty years of work as an educator. For the past 18 years, Mr. Wildman has been the Principal of Silverado Middle School in Napa County, California where he has dutifully served the students of our community.

Mr. Wildman was born in Hazelwood, Indiana and later moved to California. He received his teaching credential from California State University, Hayward in Biology, Chemistry and the Physical Sciences. He began his teaching career in 1968 teaching Science at Silverado Middle School. In 1972, Mr. Wildman was promoted to the Dean of Boys—Vice Principal of the School. He served in this post until 1980 when he became the Principal of Ridgeview Junior High School in Napa County. In 1982, he returned to Silverado Middle School to become Principal, where he has served until his retirement this month.

Under the guidance of Mr. Wildman, Silverado Middle School has been the recipient

of numerous academic merits and awards. In 1986, Silverado was granted its first Napa Distinguished Middle School award. In 1988, Silverado was selected as a Foundation School and as one of 100 network partnership schools by the California State Department of Education. Silverado later received a second Distinguished Middle School award by the California Department of Education in 1996.

As an individual Mr. Wildman has been recognized as an outstanding academic leader. In 1988, he was given a California Department of Education Commendation for middle school grade reform. In 1988, Mr. Wildman was also granted the Napa Valley Unified School District leadership award for distinguished management performance. He was the recipient of the Distinguished Leadership award from the California State Department of Education in 1991. And, in 1996, Mr. Wildman was awarded a California Distinguished Middle School Principal's award.

Dave Wildman is a dedicated family man. He and his wife Nancy have three children: Christine, Jeremy and Sarah.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Dave Wildman has been an exemplary educator and leader in the Napa Valley. As Mr. Wildman's Representative, I am both honored and pleased to know that there are dedicated people, such as he, who are leading our public schools. Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, it is proper that we honor Principal Dave Wildman for all of his achievements and his contribution to our community.

#### APPALACHIA TOUR

#### HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2000*

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share another story from my recent tour of Appalachia. I heard many stories of people who are hungry in the midst of our record-breaking economy. I wish that I didn't hear these stories and I wish they weren't true, but they are. One family told me of their trouble simply putting meals on the table.

Darryl and Martha are two ordinary people who find themselves requiring assistance from a local food pantry. Darryl just turned 70 and receives about \$ 1,000 each month for his retirement. Martha has cancer and lost her parents and her brothers to the disease. She had surgery eight times in the past 10 years. In order to get to her medical appointments, Darryl and Martha must drive eighty miles round-trip. Even with Medicaid, their gas and \$10 co-payments add up, so they swallowed their pride and applied for food stamps. After filling out an application that asked 700 questions, Darryl and Martha were congratulated on being entitled to \$5 each in monthly benefits.

When an outreach worker spoke with Darryl and Martha, neither of them had eaten for three days. Three days. There was not a single can or box of food in their cupboards, after months of trying to stretch everything they had. Martha had watered down a can of tomato juice to last two weeks. She had added extra water to cans of soup to try and make it last a second day. They once had chicken noodle soup with no chicken and noodles